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Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.8, I hereby certify that this paper and all enclosures are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail on the date indicated below in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.
Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.6(d), I hereby certify that this paper and all enclosures are being sent via facsimile on the date indicated below to the attention of Examiner _____ at Facsimile No _____ at _____ a.m./p.m.
Dated: March 29, 2004 Name of Person Certifying: Melissa Sanchez
Printed Name: Melissa Sanchez

5

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Robert Stobie

) Group Art Unit: 3738

Application No.: 10/705,587

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) Examiner: Unknown

Filing Date: November 10, 2003

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For: HEART VALVE HOLDER AND METHOD FOR
RESISTING SUTURE LOOPING

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

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Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-referenced application, please enter the following changes.

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Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 3 of this paper.